Economic Development Board.

69. ❋ **SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what the functions of the Economic Development Board are; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the desirability of revising the functions of the Board to enable that body to do more useful, and more sustained work in the field of economic development?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) (1) To consider questions of policy relating to the working of various Development Departments such as Agriculture and Fisheries, Industries, Forest, Co-operation and Excise.

(2) To consider important proposals and schemes submitted by the Development Departments of Government and to make recommendations thereon.

(3) To make suggestions to Government in regard to agricultural, industrial, and other matters of economic importance and to co-ordinate the work of the several Development Departments.

(4) To publish the Travancore Economic Journal.

(*b*) Government do not consider it necessary to reorganise the Economic Development Board.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): With reference to answer to part (*a*) of the question may I know whether the Heads of various Departments mentioned in the answer are members of the Board?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Not all.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know which of them are and which of them are not?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is not a member now.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Was he at any time member of the Board?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I am not sure.

MR A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know the reason why when all the Heads of Departments are members of the Board the Registrar of Co-operative Societies alone is excluded?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): There is no special reason. It was not considered necessary at the time when the Board was formed.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I take it then that in a body which is brought into existence to consider questions of policy by Government Departments, the Head of the Co-operative Department alone is not considered a necessary member?

MR. T. C THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): At that particular time it was not considered. But whenever Government feel its necessary to include him also there will be no objection to do so.

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Sales for arrears of land tax due to the Edappalli Chief.

70 *MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of sales that took place in the Tiruvalla Taluk Cutcherry for the recovery of arrears of revenue due to the Edappalli Chief;

(*b*) the number of sales confirmed;

(*c*) the number of sales set aside by deposit of the arrears, etc.: and

(*d*) the number of objection petitions received by the Tahsildar and Peishkar in connection with the sales?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) As the member has not stated in his interpellation the period *i. e.*, the year or years in respect of which the information is required, no definite answer can be given.

However, a statement showing particulars of sales of land for arrears of revenue due to the Edapalli Chief conducted by the Tahsildar (Tiruvalla) relating to the year 1109 and the first eight months of 1110 are furnished below:—

Period.	No. of sales held.	No. of sales confirmed.	No. of sales set aside by deposit of arrears, etc.	No. of objection petitions received.	
				By Tahsildar.	By Assistant Peishkar, Chengannur.
1109	93	59	34	12	15
First 8 months of 1110	59	23	36	5	8

Grant-in-aid to Vernacular Primary Schools.

71 *MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of recognised Vernacular Primary Schools for which grant-in-aid applications are pending disposal in the office of the Director of Public Instruction from the year 1106 to the end of 1109 in (1) the whole State, (2) the Tiruvalla taluk; and

(*b*) the reasons for the delay in granting the applications for more than a reasonable time?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Officiating Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) Nil.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Thiruvalla I*): May I know from Government when applications for grants-in-aid were received?

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